Negotiating Skills: Techniques to Close the Deal

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DOE Technology Partnerships Working Group Meeting
National Energy Technology Laboratory
Morgantown, WV
June 11, 2002

Knowing your partner...



Let's talk about negotiation...

Overview

- Assumptions
- What is negotiation?
- Who is a negotiator?
- Why does it work?
- Why does it fail?
- How can we improve?
- A dozen tips...
- "Expanding the pie"



Assumptions

- You already know this stuff
- Focus on the process, not the "four corners" of an agreement
 - No bad relationship is cured by a good deal
 - A bad deal can be cured by a good relationship
- Think long-run

What is negotiation?



- "Working toward agreement"
- "...or not doing it!"

Who is a negotiator?

Look in the mirror.

Why does it work?

- The affected players value outcomes of mutual benefit high enough to do a deal
 - What would you do if you didn't have this deal?
- The key players (i.e., technical, business, legal) are in alignment



Why does it fail?

- Time
- Perceived issues
- Real issues

- Personality
- Agendas
- Honesty



How can we improve?

- Look inside
- Profit from mistakes
- Learn from others
- Risk failure to achieve success
- Know when to take "yes" for an answer
- Know when working by phone/fax/e-mail is not enough for the deal to fly



A dozen tips...

"What one can learn from making a lot of mistakes!"



"Dirty dozen"

- Be outcome-oriented
- Help your partner, and you'll help yourself
- Focus on intent, then content
- Know when to do NO deal
- Be creative
- Use time effectively

- Practice "servant leadership"
- Make partners for life
- Dispute-proof the deal
- K.I.S.S.
- Coalition-build
- Know the decisionmakers to make it go

"Expanding the pie"

- Would you rather have a bigger piece of a smaller pie or a smaller piece of a bigger pie?
- When does 1+1=3?
- What does all this "pie" and "math" stuff mean???



Wrap-up



- Reviewed key negotiation skills
- Discussed changing our paradigm about deals ("pie")
- Encourage thinking outside of the box...